

Message Text

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE PRICES OF GALVANIZED IRON SHEETS

REF: STATE 278887

1. THIS CABLE CONTAINS UPDATED JAPANESE DOMESTIC AND EXPORT PRICES OF

GALVANIZED IRON SHEETS REPORTED IN TOKYO A-295, AUGUST 25, 1976, AS WELL AS COMPARABLE DATA FROM JANUARY 1974. THE DOMESTIC PRICES INDICATE DOLLAR VALUES CONVERTED FROM THE HIGHEST END-OF-MONTH TOKYO MARKET PRICES AMONG WHOLESALERS FOR 0.4 MM THICK COILED GI SHEETS, AS REPORTED IN THE "TEKKO SHINBUN," A DAILY TRADE JOURNAL ON THE STEEL INDUSTRY. THE EXPORT PRICES INDICATE AVERAGE MONTHLY FOR JAPAN EXPORT PRICES ON THE CUSTOMS CLEARANCE BASIS FOR ALL TYPES OF GI SHEETS.

2. "MARKET PRICES AMONG WHOLESALERS" APPLIES TO THE SPOT-BASIS SALES OF STEEL PRODUCTS TO VNUMEROUS SMALL END USERS REGARDLESS OF THE MAJOR PRODUCERS' SELLING PRICES, AND THUS SENSITIVELY REFLECTS SHORT-RUN TRENDS IN DOMESTIC DEMAND. THIS MEANS THAT MARKET PRICES AMONG WHOLESALERS ARE GENERALLY MUCH HIGHER THAN PRODUCERS' SELLING PRICES WHEN DOMESTIC DEMAND IS ACTIVE AND LOWER

WHEN DEMAND SLUMPS. ACCORDING TO THE JAPAN GALVANIZED IRON SHEET EXPORTERS' ASSOCIATION, MOST OF THE GI SHEETS EXPORTED TO THE U.S. ARE IN COILS, OF 0.5 MM THICKNESS AND ABOVE, SO THAT EXPORT PRICES TO THE U.S. ARE USUALLY LOWER THAN THOSE TO BOTH OTHER

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COUNTRIES AND DOMESTIC USERS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE PRICE

DATA IN THIS REPORT DO NOT APPERA TO REFLECT DUMPING.

3. JAPANESE DOMESTIC AND EXPORT PRICES OF GALVANIZED IRON SHEETS
IN 1974, 1975, AND JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 1976
(US\$ PER METRIC TONS)

	DOMESTIC PRICES 1/	EXPORT PRICES 2/ TO WORLD TO U.S.
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1984:

JANUARY	479	290 267
FEBRUARY	370	318 285
MARCH	366	313 282
APRIL	378	337 301
MAY	378	340 311
JUNE	373	349 317
JULY	367	350 325
AUGUST	346	356 343
SEPTEMBER	341	371 349
OCTOBER	331	380 371
NOVEMBER	323	386 387
DECEMBER	323	387 384

1975⁸¹

JANUARY	306	376 389
FEBRUARY	310	349 360
MARCH	306	323 &333
APRIL	320	298 330
MAY	301	305 317
JUNE	302	295 301
JULY	298	250 294
AUGUST	309	300 287
SEPTEMBER	312	292 284
OCTOBER	308	295 284

NOVEMBER	308	307 288
DECEMBER	305	301 285

1976:

JANUARY	304	289 284
FEBRUARY	307	292 ?285
MARCH	312	288 284
APRIL	334	297 298
MAY	321	306 301

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JUNE	340	314 305
JULY	347	324 318
AUGUST	365	344 331
SEPTEMBER	371	347 333

1/ HIGHEST END-OF-MONTH TOKYO MARKET PRICES AMONG WHOLESALERS
FOR COILED 0.4 MM THICK GALVANIZED IRON SHEETS AS REPORTED
IN THE "TEKKO SHINBUN." DOLLAR VALUES ARE CONVERTED

FORM YEN VALUES THROUGH THE MONTHLY YEN-DLOOAR CONVERSION
RATE FOR EXPORTS AS ANOUNCED BY THE MINISTRY OF
FINANCE.

2/ AVERAGE MONTHLY FOB JAPAN EXPORT PRICES ON THE IUSTOMS
CLEARANCE BASIS FOR ALL TYPES OF GALVANIZED IRON SHEETS.

SOURCES: "TEKKO SHINBUN" FOR DOMESTIC PRICES AND THE IRON AND
STEEL FEDERATION FOR EXPORT PRICES.
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